



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 7047

LCO No. 3854

03854_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-223e of the general statutes is amended by
2 adding subsections (c) and (d) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

3 (NEW) (c) (1) Any school district identified as in need of
4 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and requiring
5 corrective action pursuant to the requirements of the No Child Left
6 Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, shall be designated and listed as an
7 underperforming school district and shall be subject to intensified
8 supervision and direction by the State Board of Education.

9 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of title 10 or any regulation
10 adopted pursuant to said statutes, in carrying out the provisions of
11 subdivision (1) of this subsection the State Board of Education may
12 take the following actions to improve student performance and
13 remove the school district from the list of districts designated and
14 listed as an underperforming school district pursuant to said
15 subdivision (1), and to address other needs of the district: (A) Require
16 an operations audit to identify possible programmatic savings and an

17 instructional audit to identify any achievement and climate
18 deficiencies of the district; (B) require the local or regional board of
19 education for such district to use state and federal funds for critical
20 needs as directed by the State Board of Education; (C) consult with the
21 local bargaining units of the teachers and principals hired by the
22 district to provide incentives to attract highly qualified teachers and
23 principals; (D) consult with the local bargaining units of the teachers
24 and principals hired by the district to direct the transfer and
25 assignment of teachers and principals; (E) require additional training
26 and technical assistance for teachers, principals and central office staff
27 members hired by the district; (F) require the local or regional board
28 of education for the district to implement curriculum approved by the
29 Department of Education; (G) identify schools within the district for
30 reconstitution as state or local charter schools, or for management by
31 an entity other than the local or regional board of education for the
32 district in which the school is located; (H) direct the local or regional
33 board of education for the district to develop and implement a plan
34 addressing deficits in achievement and climate as recommended in the
35 instructional audit; (I) assign a technical assistance team to the district
36 to guide district initiatives and report progress to the Commissioner of
37 Education; (J) develop benchmarks for the district to meet as it
38 progresses toward removal from the list of underperforming school
39 districts; and (K) provide funding to any district that borders a district
40 designated as an underperforming school district so that students in a
41 school in the third year of improvement within the underperforming
42 district may attend public school in a neighboring district.

43 (NEW) (d) The State Board of Education shall monitor the progress
44 of each district designated as an underperforming school district
45 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section and provide
46 notice to the local or regional board of education for each such district
47 of the district's progress toward meeting the benchmarks established
48 by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (c) of this
49 section. If a district fails to make acceptable progress toward meeting
50 such benchmarks established by the State Board of Education and fails

51 to make adequate yearly progress pursuant to the requirements of the
52 No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, for two consecutive years
53 while designated as an underperforming school district, the State
54 Board of Education, after consultation with the Governor and
55 community leaders of the district, may request that the General
56 Assembly enact legislation authorizing that control of the district be
57 reassigned to the State Board of Education or other authorized entity.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	10-223e
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Statement of Purpose:

To increase the accountability of underperforming school districts.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]